

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9326

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 05295

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR, SHUM, UNHRC

SUBJECT: SOVIET REACTION TO 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING

1. TO DATE, ONLY SIGNIFICANT COMMENTARY ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION MEETING HASSEEN PRAVDA MARCH 16 COMMENTARY
ENTITLED "FOR HUMAN RIGHTS." PURSUING FAMILIAR TENDENTIOUS
SOVIET LINE ON THIS SUBJECT, ARTICLE BEGINS BY STATING THAT
"IN SPITE OF INCONSISTENT AND AT TIMES NEGATIVE POSITIONS
OF SOME COUNTRIES," THE CONFERENCE "SUCCEEDED IN ADOPTING
PRINCIPLED RESOLUTIONS ON BASIC PROBLEMS." ARTICLE GOES
ON TO CLAIM THAT:

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-- THE "ENEMIES OF DETENTE" FAILED TO DIVERT DISCUSSION
ON HUMAN RIGHTS BACK TO THE "DEAD END" OF THE COLD WAR,
AND THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE CONFERENCE'S PARTICIPANTS
DID NOT SUPPORT THE "APOLOGISTS FOR BOURGEOISE DEMOCRACY."

-- MANY DELEGATES NOTED THAT THE "HAVE CLASSES" OF

WESTERN SOCIETY VIEW WORKING PEOPLES' DEMANDS AS A THREAT TO THEIR FORTUNES AND PRIVILEGES, AND THAT THE VIOLATION OF CITIZENS RIGHTS TO WORK IN THE "CAPITALIST" COUNTRIES ARE OF A "MASS CHARACTER."

-- "A WIDE REACTION WAS STIRRED" BY THE RESOLUTION WHICH CONDEMNED ISRAEL'S "AGGRESSIVE POLICY" WHILE EXPRESSING DEEP CONCERN OVER CONDITIONS OF THE POPULATION IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. ARTICLE ALSO NOTES RESOLUTIONS ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE AND STATES THAT ONLY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE U.S., BRITAIN AND FRANCE VOTED AGAINST THE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE POLICIES OF COUNTRIES MAINTAINING RELATIONS WITH RACIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

2. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT "ACTIONS OF CAPITALIST COUNTRIES" ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH SOPHISTICATED MEANS OF "MASS ANNIHILATION" AS THE NEUTRON BOMB CONSTITUTE "A DIRECT THREAT TO A MAJOR HUMAN RIGHT, THE RIGHT TO LIVE," AND THAT "THIS IS WHY THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ARMS RACE IS BECOMING TODAY A MAJOR BATTLEFIELD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS."

3. COMMENT: COMBATIVE CONTENT AND TONE OF THIS COMMENTARY IS SIMILAR TO ONGOING SOVIET REPORTAGE OF THE BELGRADE MEETING AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN TP U.S. COMMENTARY FOCUSED ONLY ON PASSAGE OF SOVIET-CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORTED RESOLUTIONS AND ARGUMENTS PRESENTED BY SOVIET SPEAKERS, WHILE IGNORING PROGRESS ON 1503 PROCEDURES. TOON

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